

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
**FY 2025 Budget Request**



Keeping Our Country Safe:  
**Combat Drug Trafficking and Prevent Overdose Deaths**

Component / Initiative	Positions	Agents/ Attorneys	\$000s
<b>FEDERAL PROGRAMS</b>			
<b>Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA)</b>			
DEA Counter Fentanyl Threat Targeting Teams	72	40	\$18,298
Diversion Control Fee Account (DCFA) Emerging Threats	86	4	\$29,980
<b>Subtotal, DEA</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>\$48,278</b>
<b>Subtotal, Federal Programs</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>\$48,278</b>
<b>GRANTS</b>			
<b>Office of Justice Programs (OJP)</b>			
<i>Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA)</i>	0	0	\$443,000
<i>Project HOPE</i>	0	0	\$5,000
<i>Opioid-Affected Youth Initiative - Set-Aside Under Juvenile Justice Title V</i>	0	0	\$12,500
<i>Forensic Support for Opioid and Synthetic Drug Investigations</i>	0	0	\$17,000
<i>Mentoring for Youth Affected by the Opioid Crisis</i>	0	0	\$16,500
<b>Subtotal, OJP</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$494,000</b>
<b>Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)</b>			
<i>Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces</i>	0	0	\$16,000
<i>Anti-Heroin Task Forces</i>	0	0	\$35,000
<b>Subtotal, COPS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$51,000</b>
<b>Subtotal, Grants</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$545,000</b>
<b>Total Program Enhancements</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>\$593,278</b>

\* Programs that are italicized are base resources only. Base resources are not discussed in the narrative below.

Drug trafficking and substance abuse continue to significantly impact the American public, with synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl, as the primary driver of overdose deaths. Provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) indicate there were 105,452 drug overdose deaths in the United States during 2022. This represents a decrease of approximately two percent from the 107,572 deaths in 2021.<sup>1</sup> Overdose deaths involving opioids decreased from 80,997 in 2021 to 79,770 in 2022. While that decrease is welcome progress, the fact remains that drug overdose death rates involving fentanyl increased by 279 percent from 5.7 per 100,000 people in 2016 to 21.6 per 100,000 people in 2021, according to new data from the CDC's NCHS. Drug overdose death rates involving methamphetamines more than quadrupled during the same period.<sup>2</sup> Overdose deaths from synthetic opioids, including fentanyl (excluding methadone), and psychostimulants such as methamphetamine and cocaine, increased in 2022 compared to 2021.<sup>3</sup> This demonstrates the need for continued and expanded resources to overcome the scourge of drug deaths in America.

On April 14th, 2023, when the Justice Department announced charges against several leaders of the Sinaloa Cartel, Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said, "the fentanyl crisis in America – fueled in large part by the Sinaloa cartel – threatens our public

health, our public safety, and our national security... today's indictments target every element of the Sinaloa Cartel's trafficking network and reflect the Justice Department's commitment to attacking every aspect of this threat: from the chemical companies in China that spawn fentanyl precursors, to the illicit labs that produce the poison, to the networks and money launderers and murderers that facilitate its distribution. Just as we have gone on offense against terrorists and cyber criminals around the globe, the Department is now waging a relentless campaign to disrupt the production and trafficking of fentanyl – before it can reach its victims."<sup>4</sup>

As an essential part of the Department's commitment to keep our country safe, the FY 2025 President's Budget includes **\$593.3 million to combat the opioid crisis** through increased resources within the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). The Department will continue to disrupt and dismantle cartel operations, remove fentanyl from our communities, and implement public awareness campaigns to combat the counterfeit pill threat and educate the public about the dangers of fentanyl pills being disguised and sold as prescription medication. In addition, this strategy saves lives by encouraging prescribers and pharmacists to avoid the illegal distribution of opioids.

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<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Office of Communication: Provisional Data Shows U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths Top 100,000 in 2022. <https://blogs.cdc.gov/nchs/2023/05/18/7365/>


<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, NCHS: Blog of the National Center for Health Statistics: Fentanyl Overdose Death Rates More Than tripled from 2016-2021. <https://blogs.cdc.gov/nchs/2023/05/03/7338/>

<sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics, Office of Communication: Provisional Data Shows U.S. Drug Overdose Deaths Top 100,000 in 2022. <https://blogs.cdc.gov/nchs/2023/05/18/7365/>

<sup>4</sup> Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Justice, Justice Department Announces Charges Against Sinaloa Cartel's Global Operation: [Office of Public Affairs | Justice Department Announces Charges Against Sinaloa Cartel's Global Operation | United States Department of Justice](#)

**Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA): \$48.3 million**

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 **158 positions**  
(40 agents,  
4 attorneys)

→ **Counter Fentanyl Threat Targeting Teams: \$18.3 million**

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72 positions (40 agents)

→ **Diversion Control Fee Account (DCFA) Emerging Threats: \$29.8 million**

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86 positions (4 attorneys)

**Counter Fentanyl Threat Targeting Teams: \$18.3 million and 72 positions (40 agents)**

This allocation of funds will enable the DEA to establish additional Counter-Threat Targeting Teams within eight of its domestic field divisions. These teams will target and map criminal networks, track billions of dollars across the globe, identify wholesalers, money launderers, and facilitators involved in distributing fentanyl into communities. Consisting of interdisciplinary teams of special agents, intelligence analysts, and data experts, these teams will be an integral component of the DEA's "One DEA" strategic approach to improve and streamline operational coordination across the agency. **The current services for this initiative are \$1.2 million and 4 positions (4 agents).**

**Diversion Control Fee Account (DCFA) Emerging Threats: \$29.8 million and 86 positions (4 attorneys)**

This funding increases personnel, providing needed support to address emerging diversion threats and to regulate the growing registrant population. Additional resources will also increase the ability to target and analyze threats, focus on diversion programmatic priorities, and increase scientific and technical resources. **Current services for this request are \$621.7 million and 2,321 positions (471 agents).**